

## **ABSTRACT**

**CREATIVE PROJECT:** Nocturnes in Blue

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**COLLEGE:** Science and Humanities

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This project is the first two chapters of a novel that will be approximately twenty chapters in length. The novel tells the story of two cousins in an alternate New York City where jazz offers the same amount of energy as a combustion engine. The cousins, Felix and Fiona, must deal with the increased societal pressures this technological innovation places on the already turbulent Roaring Twenties. For Fiona, these pressures include seeing the horrors of American racism up close for the first time; for Felix, they consist of impending fatherhood and an unruly private detective he feels responsible for. Through its tense, engaging plot, its scrutiny of the protagonists, and an omniscient narrator that routinely interrupts the otherwise close, third-person focalization, the novel examines the interpersonal and cultural costs of apathy.